

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CU-02 DHA-02 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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R 111415Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4955
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, EG, LY
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN PRESS ON LIBYAN DEVELOPMENTS MAY 11

REF: CAIRO 7920

1. LOCAL DAILIES MAY 11 CONTAIN USUAL QUOTIENT OF ANTI-QADHAFI FRONT PAGE ARTICLES. HIGHLIGHTS:

2. EGYPTIAN EXPELLEES. MENA REPORT, BASED ON ACCOUNTS FROM EXPELLEES ARRIVING FROM LIBYA, ALLEGES THAT QADHAFI HAS ORDERED FORMATION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES IN LIBYAN UNIVERSITIES TO CHOOSE FUTURE VISITNG PROFESSORS AND TO DRAW UP NEW CONTRACTS FOR ALL UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS. ARTICLES NOTE WITH CONSIDERABLE IRRITATION THAT QADHAFI PLANS TO REPLACE EGYPTIAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS IN
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LIBYA WITH SOVIETS. DAILIES ALSO CLAIM THAT SYRIA HAS MADE OFFICIAL REQUEST THAT ALL EGYPTIAN DOCTORS EXPelled FROM LIBYA BE SENT TO WORK IMMEDIATELY INSYRIA. GUM-HURIYYA CARRIES EDITORIAL CHARGING THAT, DESPITE DECLARATIONS BY EX-PM JALLOUD IN BELGRADE THAT ALL EGYPTIAN WORKERS TO BE EXPelled AFTER APPROVAL OF PEOPLES CONFERENCE, LIBYAN PEOPLE COULD NEVER ADOPT SUCH MEASURES

WITHOUT COERCION. LIBYANS "FULLY REALIZE WHAT EGYPTIAN EXPERTISE AND EGYPTIAN WORKERS DO FOR LIBYAN PROGRESS, AND ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT."

3. POLICE BRUTALITY. "QADHAFI'S POLICE FORCE" ALLEGEDLY STORMED SECONDARY AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTE IN TOWN OF ZAWAYI AL-MAHGUB RECENTLY BECAUSE ONE OF STUDENTS HAD RECORDED RADIO BROADCAST BY MUHAYSHI AND WAS APPARENTLY REPLAYING TAPE FOR SOME OF HIS COLLEAGUES. NUMEROUS STUDENTS AND FACULTY AT INSTITUTE REPORTEDLY ARRESTED. LOCAL DAILIES ALSO STATE THAT WORLD PRESS FEDERATION HAS INTERVENED DIRECTLY WITH QADHAFI TO REQUEST THE RELEASE OF A YUGOSLAV JOURNALIST RESIDENT IN TRIPOLI WHO WAS REPORTEDLY IMPRISONED DURING PAST WEEK.

4. US RELATIONS. ALTHOUGH DETAILS LEFT VAGUE, DAILIES REPORT THAT USG RECENTLY TURNED DOWN LIBYAN REQUEST (ORIGIN NOT SPECIFIED) TO RAISE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION BETWEEN LIBYA AND US TO AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL. LIBYAN INITIATIVE WAS REPORTEDLY REJECTED BY ASST SECRETARY ATHERTON.

5. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH USUAL ANTI-LIBYAN LEIT-MOTIF REMAINS ON FRONT PAGES OF CAIRO DAILIES, WRITERS MAY 11 APPEAR TO BE MERELY GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS AND INTENSE EMOTIONAL INDIGNATION OFTEN ASSOCIATED WITH LIBYAN DEVELOPMENTS APPEARS TO HAVE MOMENTARILY ABATED.
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